



The Man of the Decorations.
The International Sunday School lesson for November 21 is "Paul's Story of His Life." II Cor. 11:21-12:10.

(BY WILLIAM T. ELLIS.)
There is an American in Tokio who is sometimes called "the brains of the Japanese government." Naturally, very little appears about him in print; he is the man behind the scenes. The emperor has bestowed upon him many orders, but these he does not wear. On state occasions he sits in a lower seat, inconspicuous and unknown. But on one occasion, the Japanese government tendered a banquet to visiting American officials, and this man appeared wearing all his decorations. These entitled him to rank above most of the Japanese officials present; so he was honored in the eyes of his fellow-countrymen. It was an occasion to prove his patriotism, and he did right in availing himself of it.

This preacher-traveler-statesman Paul had been decorated by many knightly orders, but he seldom played them. He did not care what people thought of him, so long as the work was done. There came an occasion, however, when he would have touched, and his usefulness as a servant of Jesus Christ. Then he produced his decorations, displayed them fully, and took the place of high rank to which he was entitled. Somebody who holds the minor virtues, the proprieties and the conventions so close that he can not see things in proportion, cries out, "Is Paul modest here?" He is not, nor should he be. Modesty is a gentle virtue which must sometimes be sent to the rear along with the baggage, while her older brothers Honor and Truth go forth to join in war's fierce clash.

When a man is called upon to defend his honor or his work, or the sacredness of truth, he may not let any petty considerations of modesty or immodesty stand in the way of that holy duty.

An Adventurous Career.
The clash of arms and the shrilling of battle bugles sounds in Paul's defense of himself to the Corinthian Christians. They had been lending their itching ears to the tales of the leaders who were professing to be better Jews, better Christians and better leaders than he. Had Paul been the sort of milk and sugar Christian so popular nowadays, with no real life, these backbiting enemies take his crown. If, however, Paul has been capable of such pusillanimity he would not have been Paul the empire builder.

Listen to his thrilling recital of his apostolic credentials:
"Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they the seed of Abraham? So am I. Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as one beside himself) I more, in labors more abundantly, in stripes more abundantly, in stripes above measure, in deaths oft. Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day have I been in the deep; in journeys oft, in perils of rivers, in perils of robbers, in perils from my countrymen, in perils from the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren, in labor and travail, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. Besides those things that are without, there were upon me daily, anxiety for all the churches."

Then the apostle proceeds to narrate a transporting, unrepeatable experience, when he was caught up into the third heaven. Continuing, he writes:
"And by reason of the exceeding greatness of the revelations, that I should not be exalted overmuch, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, that I should not be exalted overmuch. Concerning this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he hath said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee; for my power is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Wherefore I take pleasure in weaknesses, in injuries, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then am I strong."

Little Worries and Big Troubles.
When a man tries to follow a big idea he can not tell where the will end. To heed a great call is to enter upon an unknown way. Who so sets out to do the brave, true deed will find himself often in a path where he can not see the next step. He may find such adventures as Paul's, but he will find a man's life and work.

Paul was forever in trouble. Like most knight-errant truths he found a multitude of petty and soul-dwarfing worries. There was a joy in the tumult which was better than achieving than the serenity of a becalmed existence. The peace which dwells in the heart of the storm is most complete and precious.

Even the great anxiety which came upon Paul daily, care for all the churches, was for his parish. He cared more for the kingdom than for any congregation or denomination, though he was forever busy in some one local field. He had what William Penn called "a public mind." When a man's anxiety is for his country, for the world, or for the kingdom of heaven, he has entered into the secret

of Christ. Vain has been this course of lessons if it has not helped some persons to love the larger interests of God. The broadened life is the day's need. All children should be taught to study world maps. The student of the performance, inviting the audience to remain. This custom has been in vogue in Philadelphia and other cities for several years past.

Dudley Buck, the famous American organist, whose "Te Deum" is pronounced a masterpiece, recently died in America, after an absence of two years in Europe. He was seventy years old.

Everyday Thanksgiving.
Terse comments for November 21. The Blessing of a Thankful Heart. Neh. 8: 1-12.

(BY WILLIAM T. ELLIS.)
A good life is the day's end. It is a good life, despite the evidence that some persons are trying to feed their spirits on what Carlyle called "a diet of broad grins." Mere heedless good rich life, and, all things considered, the real optimism. Real optimism has its springs in a thankful heart. It is grateful for the good, and looks over on the brighter side because it is the better side, and, all things considered, the truer side also. Unshakable optimism is that which is pillared in a simple trust in God. It believes that all things will come out right in the end, because God is in control, and his other name is love.

A thankful heart is greater riches than a full purse.

For human love, and love divine,
For love of ours, and love of thine,
For heaven on earth and heaven above,
We thank Thee.
—J. G. Holland.

It takes uncommon grace to be thankful for common mercies.
Among all the blessings for which mortals should give thanks the blessing of a thankful heart should have a high place. This spirit of gratitude, which recognizes God's good gifts, and here another in the heart, yet resigned to his providences, but grateful for them, is a trace of the divine in the human. For it was God's own word which taught men to say, "Father, I thank thee."

A man's wife died. The loss was sore, for the love that knit them together was strong, and the husband had been wont to lean heavily upon his wife's tender care and counsel. After her death the man showed no bitterness, and was known to pray when somebody heard him praying alone. His prayer was not one of grief, but of gratitude that for so many years God had given him his wife, and that he had been able to himself unworthy of such a great honor and blessing, but he thanked God for it, and prayed that he might be kept ready for the eternal reunion with his beloved. Is it any wonder that this man's bereavement has been a means of grace to him, and to all his wide circle of friends? His gratitude has made him great.

For morning sun and evening dew,
For every bud that April knew,
For storm and silence, gloom and light,
And for the solemn stars at night;
For fallow field and burdened byre,
For roof and hearth and heart-side fire,
For everything that shines and sings,
For dear, familiar daily things—
The friendly trees, and, in the sky,
The white cloud-squadrons sailing by;
For hope that waits, for Faith that dares,
For patience that still smiles and bears,
For love that fails not, nor with-stands;
For healing touch of children's hands,
For happy labor, high intent,
For all life's blessed sacrament:
For comrades of our nights and days,
Thou givest all things, take our praise.
—Arthur Ketchum.

"Thankfulness for blessings," says Amos R. Wells, "is almost always a greater blessing than those for which we are thankful."

Since every day is God's day, every day should be a thanksgiving day.
Happiness is the thanks we say to God. Just to be glad is gratitude.

These are the gifts I ask
Of thee, Spirit serene:
Strength for the daily task,
Courage to face the road,
Good cheer to help me bear the traveler's load,
And for the hours of rest that come
An inward joy for all things heard and seen.
—Anon.

A few years ago there was a dingling song popular with Christian Endeavor societies and Sunday schools: "Count your blessings, name them one by one." The idea was better than the poetry. It is a good basic philosophy for life. To exercise one's will in the resolute recognition of the joys of existence is to evoke new sources of peace and power from the depths of one's own nature. The modern theory of medicine is founded largely upon this principle. Dwell upon the good, and that very act will do you good. Think bright, grateful thoughts and your life will have added reasons for brightness and gratitude.

Earth is an apprenticeship to heaven. If we are to spend eternity there in praising God, would it not be sensible to begin now to practice?

O heart of mine, we shouldn't
Worry so;
What we've missed of calm we couldn't.

Health Demands
that the bowels be kept regular. Neglect means sickness. Sluggish bowels are quickly regulated by

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stant Episcopal church, in New York City, will have an outdoor pulpit of white marble.

New York City Presbyterians have undertaken the holding of services in the theaters, immediately at the close of the performance, inviting the audience to remain. This custom has been in vogue in Philadelphia and other cities for several years past.

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Have, you know!
What we've met of stormy pain,
And of sorrow's driving rain,
We can better meet again,
If it blow.

We have erred in that dark hour
We have known,
When the tears fell with the shower,
All alone,
Were not shine and shower blent
As the gracious Maker meant?
Let us temper our content
With his own.

For we know not every morrow
Can be said;
So forgetting all the sorrow
We have had,
Let us fold away our fears,
And put by our foolish tears,
And through all the coming years
Just be glad.
—James Whitcomb Riley.

SEVEN SENTENCE SERMONS.
The soul of all regeneration is the regeneration of the soul.—Bushnell.

He that allows himself everything that is permitted is very near to that which is forbidden.—Augustine.

Ready to go, ready to wait,
Ready a gap to fill;
Ready for service, small or great,
Ready to do His will.
—Phillips Brooks.

There's a gude time coming.—Scott.

The key to a noble life is to see clearly, and then to act in absolute obedience to the highest vision.—W. J. Dawson.

There are slaves who dare not be in the right with two or three.—Lowell.

A young man who combined personal agreeableness with the ability to do things is apt to find that things come his way.—W. J. Beecher.

RELIGIOUS THOUGHT.
Gems Gleaned From the Teachings of All Denominations.

Sincerity, honesty and humility are nearer heaven than virtue, which is proud, jealous and bigoted.—Rev. John Hopkins Dennison, Congregationalist.

THE MOTHER OF WORSHIP.
Children may not grasp our way of worship, but they have something better—they have wonder, which is the mother of worship.—Rev. Dr. Frank Crane, Methodist, Chicago.

CAUSE FOR REJOICING.
If there are others of God's children, if there are others of the same why, it is all in the family, and let us rejoice with those that rejoice.—Rev. Charles F. Aked, Baptist, New York.

OPENER OF THE INNER LIFE.
Prayer opens the inner life for the absorption of that spiritual energy that holds creation up, just as deep roots hold a tree up, and the absorption of that mysterious fluid that sustains physical life.—Rev. Dr. Frank G. Smith, Congregationalist, Chicago.

ARCHITECTURAL MONSTROSITIES.
Air castles, like dreams, are architectural monstrosities. Yet I would not entirely depreciate the value of air castles, as our greatest statesmen and scientists have viewed their greatest works first as air castles.—Rev. H. L. Smith, Methodist, Pittsburg.

THE TRUE, IDEAL WOMAN.
There are some women whose souls are in the feathers of their hats and in the size of the size of the hats, must be exceedingly large. These women are worn eaten leaves of the foliage of the social trees. The true, ideal woman, who is not a slave to the social tree, but a woman, love like a woman, dress like a woman and act like a woman.—Rev. Father Michael, Roman Catholic, Chicago.

DON'T NEGLECT PUBLIC WORKS.
We can not afford to neglect public works. We can not preserve national righteousness. To secure this righteousness we must abide by the rules God gave mankind. The man who truly worships God, like a Christian in "Plum's Progress," receives an armor which protects him from many of the things that annoy his fellows. Sincere worship and faith in God, the source of our strength and understanding. They bring gladness to the heart.—Rev. Dr. Charles Coleman, Baptist, Philadelphia.

IN THE ENVIRONMENT.
Present circumstances or environment is possessed of great good for the one capable of accepting that good, and yet it is even possible to goad the good into the evil. A young woman once expressed to Hogarth, the great artist satirist, a wish to draw caricature. He strongly advised against such a profession, stating that it was a faculty not to be envied. By the long practice of caricature he had lost the enjoyment of beauty and never could see a face that was not distorted by the caricaturist's hand. He had lost the enjoyment of beauty and never could see a face that was not distorted by the caricaturist's hand. He had lost the enjoyment of beauty and never could see a face that was not distorted by the caricaturist's hand.

THE PERSONAL TOUCH.
For those who would follow Christ there is nothing like the personal touch. The real way, the only way, of Christlike service is the way of the hands. Too many of us are trying to serve him by indirect means, by length, through a substitute. It is the personal impress that counts. Let your gifts and service carry a bit of your own self, and you will find that your own voice will mean more to the poor, the lonely, the troubled or the sick than all the generosity of money or flowers that you may send.—Rev. Dr. Merle H. Anderson, Presbyterian, St. Louis.

NEED OF GREAT MORAL UPRISING.
We need most sorely the bringing of a new spirit into our commercial and industrial affairs, a spirit of fairness and justice which shall desire and find a way to make the division of wealth among us a more sane and equitable one, which shall give to labor everywhere its full and proper share of the government which labor and capital together produce. We need a great moral uprising, a religious and social crusade by the earnest people of our land for the preservation of that most sacred of all human institutions which we call the home. We have not realized the significance, the inevitable, infallible effect upon our life of a people of the appalling condition which our statistics now show in regard to divorce. A nation which sins against the sacredness of the marriage tie is doomed.—Rev. Dr. William T. Manning, Episcopalian, New York.

OUR DUTY TO BE HAPPY.
When we study the faces of business men, the faces of our streets and watch them at work in office and factory we are struck with their lack of happiness. We go into the haunts of the city's poor, where we expect to find much misery. But if we turn away from the poverty stricken districts and abide in the homes of lux-

ury along our boulevards we discover in the majority of instances a condition of heart far from ideal happiness. Now, it is our duty and right to be happy. And not only so, happiness is a possible possession to all who seek it properly. God has ordained it as our high and holy estate. Unhappiness is a crime against God and our fellow men, as well as against ourselves. There is a kind of conspiracy in the universe to make men happy. There are carnivals of beauty, oratories of music, dancing sunbeams, singing birds, laughing waters and enchanting flowers. As God made these all glorious, so he made man to be happy.—Rev. Frank A. Hosmer, Presbyterian, Chicago.

Bible Study VIII.
Text, Exodus 12:18. Memory Verse 15:1.

1. Who fixed the beginning of the National year for the Hebrews?
2. How was it instituted?
3. When was the Paschal lamb to be chosen and slain?
4. What kind of an animal must it be?

5. What saved the first born of Israel from the death plague?
6. How did the Israelites "spoil" the Egyptians?
7. How many left Egypt and where did they assemble?

8. Who were the "Mixed multitude"?
9. When did the Exodus occur?
10. How long did Israel sojourn in Egypt?

11. What separated the Egyptian from the Israelite at the Red Sea?
12. When were the Egyptian drowned in the Red Sea?

13. Who described Jehovah as "Glorious in holiness, fearful in praise, doing wonders"?
14. What was Israel's first trouble in the wilderness?

15. Where did the people find no cause for complaint?
16. What did the Israelite have to eat in the wilderness?
17. Where was the manna first given?

18. How long was the manna given to Israel?
19. With whom was Israel's first battle?

20. Who was the leader?
21. Whose hands were upheld that a battle might be won?
22. Why did Moses write a book?
23. How long would Amalek trouble Israel?

24. Who was Moses' father-in-law?
25. What good advice did Jethro give to Moses?
The Passover.

While the Israelites, protected by the effect of the plagues, were making preparations for their departure, they were also preparing for a great and beautiful ceremony, which should at the same time arouse their religious feeling and bind them together as a nation. On the first Passover, over 10th Abib (March or April) a male lamb (kid) of the first year, without blemish, was chosen for each family or two small families in Israel. It was slain by the whole congregation between the evenings (between sunset and total darkness) of the 14th Abib, and its blood sprinkled on the door posts. It was roasted with fire and no bone broken. It was eaten standing, ready for a journey, in haste, with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. A leftover was burned. Later it became the first of the three great annual Jewish feasts. The Lord's Supper is our substitute for the Passover. It is a perpetual symbol and commemoration of (1) the doom of death, (2) the sacrifice of an innocent lamb, (3) the supernatural redemption of the people, and (4) the destruction of those who have not obtained that salvation.

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CHURCH NOTICES.
First United Brethren church.—Prof. C. E. Ashcraft of Holton will preach at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Mr. A. M. Wolf of Argentine, will address a men's meeting at 3 p. m.

Second Church of Christ Scientist.—Services Sunday 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. Subject, "Soul and Body." Sunday school, 9:45 a. m. Testimonial meeting Wednesday 8 p. m.

First Baptist church, Thos. S. Young, pastor.—Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Pastor's morning topic, "A Sum in Addition." The evening service will be a special program in which the Sunday school and the church orchestra will assist.

Quinton Heights chapel, Arthur D. Phelps, minister.—Usual services. Subject at 11 a. m. "God's Family." 7:30 p. m., "What Think Ye of Christ?"

First Wesleyan Methodist church, Rev. T. J. Pomeroy, pastor. Services at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Morning theme, "The Carnal Mind;" evening subject, "What Holiness is and What It Is Not."

Christian Spiritualist meeting at Lincoln Post hall, Sunday 8 p. m. Lecture by Mrs. May Standard.

Kansas Avenue Methodist Episcopal church, John W. Waldron, pastor. Morning service at 11 a. m. Subject, "America and Some of Her Problems." Evening service 7:30 p. m. Miss Nellie Snider, field secretary of the Woman's Home Missionary society of the Methodist church will speak. Special music at both services.

The Westminster Presbyterian church, Rev. Ralph Ward, pastor. Tomorrow will be Family Day. The pastor will preach at 11 o'clock on "The Christian Home." A male quartet will furnish special music. At the evening service the pastor will preach on the text, "Turn the Other Cheek."

Evangelical association, C. L. Sore, pastor. German sermon, 10:45 a. m. Evangelistic service 7:30 p. m.

Christian church, North Topeka. Sermon by the pastor at 11 a. m. Subject, "Island Missions." Mrs. Josephine M. Daniel, corresponding secretary state.

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Paintings, photographs, panoramas, stereoscopic and moving pictures vividly and truthfully portraying life, manners, products, scenery and conditions of the great West.

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First Unitarian church, Rev. J. H. Jones, pastor. Service 11 a. m. Sermon by the pastor. Music, solo, "Babylon." Mrs. F. S. Thomas, Accompanist, Miss Anna Morrison.

East Side M. E. church, J. Wesley Johnston, pastor. Revival service at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m., conducted by Rev. E. E. Hollar of Kansas City, Kan. Special music by the choir.

First Methodist Episcopal church, Rev. Frank N. Lynch, D. D., pastor. At 11 o'clock a. m. the Women's Hour Missionary society will hold its annual free will offering service. Mrs. Hilda Nasmyth of Little Rock, Arkansas, will speak. Mrs. Lunde Southern will speak at 7:30 p. m. The pastor will preach on "The Supreme Interest of the World." Special music.

Walnut Grove Methodist, C. B. Zoek, pastor. Worship with sermon 11 a. m. by the pastor. Theme, "The Ministry of Influence." At the evening service, Mrs. Nasmyth will address the congregation. Mrs. Nasmyth is superintendent of the Adeline Smith Industrial home, Little Rock, Ark.

First Church of Christ, Scientist. Services at 11 a. m. Subject, "Soul and Body." Sunday evening service at 8 o'clock. Thanksgiving service will be held Thursday evening at 8 o'clock.

First Congregational church, Francis L. Hayes, pastor. Morning sermon by the pastor. Evening subject, "The Young Woman of Today."

Lowman chapel, C. E. Helcombe, pastor. Sermon at 11 a. m. by District Superintendent T. J. Ream. At 7:30 p. m. the pastor will preach on "Beating the Air."

Euclid Avenue Methodist Episcopal church, Marvin M. Cuipepper, pastor.—Miss Nellie Snider of the Woman's Home Missionary society, will speak at 11 a. m. and District Superintendent T. J. Ream, will preach at 7:30 p. m.

First United Presbyterian church, Rev. J. A. Renwick, pastor.—Preaching 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m., by the pastor. Union Thanksgiving service Thursday 11 a. m. In M. E. church.

First Presbyterian church, Services at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sermons

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